

# Glossary

**Asphalt:** A dark-brown-to-black cement-like material containing bitumens as the predominant constituents obtained by petroleum processing. The definition includes crude asphalt as well as the following finished products: cements, fluxes, the asphalt content of emulsions (exclusive of water), and petroleum distillates blended with asphalt to make cutback asphalts.

**ASTM:** The American Society for Testing and Materials.

**Aviation Gasoline Blending Components:** Naphthas that are used for blending or compounding into finished aviation gasoline (e.g., straight-run gasoline, alkylate, and reformat). Excludes oxygenates (alcohols and ethers), butane, and pentanes plus.

**Aviation Gasoline:** All special grades of gasoline used in aviation reciprocating engines, as given in ASTM Specification D910 and Military Specification MIL-G-5572. Aviation gasoline includes blending components.

**Barrel (petroleum):** A unit of volume equal to 42 U.S. gallons.

**Biofuels:** Nonfossil biomass energy sources and biomass-derived fuels, which together encompass all energy sources from recent-term organic (plant and animal) matter. Nonfossil biomass energy sources are essentially unprocessed; they are burned or gasified, as received, to produce thermal energy or electricity. Examples are fuelwood, waste wood, garbage, and crop waste. Biomass-derived fuels, on the other hand, result from the processing of biomass energy sources. They may be by-products of industrial or agricultural processes or they may be fuels made from biomass feedstocks. Biomass-derived fuels generally have concentrated energy density and are more easily transported and used.

Examples are wood by-products (such as wood chips and dewatered wood liquors), pellets, briquettes, refuse-derived fuel (made from garbage), ethanol (made from crops, such as corn), and methanol (made from wood). Different mixes of biofuels are used by each consuming sector. The residential and commercial sectors burn wood and pellets for space heating. The industrial sector's largest biofuel source is combustible by-products used for electricity generation and process steam, followed in importance by wood chips. The transportation sector uses ethanol as an additive to motor gasoline. Some electric utilities use wood, industrial wood waste, and municipal waste as cofiring or primary fuels.

**British Thermal Unit (Btu):** The quantity of heat needed to raise the temperature of 1 pound of water by 1° F at or near 39.2° F. See **Heat Content of a Quantity of Fuel, Gross** and **Heat Content of a Quantity of Fuel, Net**.

**Butane:** A normally gaseous straight-chain or branched-chain hydrocarbon (C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>10</sub>). It is extracted from natural gas or refinery gas streams. It includes isobutane and normal butane and is designated in ASTM Specification D1835 and Gas Processors Association Specifications for commercial butane.

**Isobutane:** A normally gaseous branched-chain hydrocarbon. It is a colorless paraffinic gas that boils at a temperature of 10.9° F. It is extracted from natural gas or refinery gas streams.

**Normal Butane:** A normally gaseous straight-chain hydrocarbon. It is a colorless paraffinic gas that boils at a temperature of 31.1° F. It is extracted from natural gas or refinery gas streams.

**Butylene:** An olefinic hydrocarbon (C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>8</sub>) recovered from refinery processes.

**Coal:** Includes all ranks of coal—anthracite, bituminous coal, subbituminous coal, and lignite—conforming to ASTM Specification D388.

**Coking Coal:** Coal that meets the requirements for making coal coke. It must be low in ash and sulfur and form a coke that is capable of supporting the charge of iron ore and limestone in a blast furnace. Coking coal is usually a blend of two or more bituminous coals.

**Steam Coal:** In this report, steam coal represents all noncoking coal.

**Coal Coke:** A hard, porous product made from baking bituminous coal in ovens at temperatures as high as 2,000° F. It is used both as a fuel and as a reducing agent in smelting iron ore in a blast furnace.

**Coke Plants:** Plants where coal is carbonized in slot or beehive ovens for the manufacture of coke.

**Coking Coal:** See **Coal**.

**Commercial Sector:** Defined economically, consists of business establishments that are not engaged in transportation or in manufacturing or other types of industrial activity (agriculture, mining, or construction). Commercial establishments include hotels, motels, restaurants, wholesale businesses, retail stores, laundries, and other service enterprises; religious and nonprofit organizations; health, social, and educational institutions; and Federal, State, and local governments. Street lights, pumps, bridges, and public services are also included if the establishment operating them is considered commercial.

**Constant Dollars:** Amounts expressed in constant dollars having been adjusted to remove the effect of changes in the purchasing power of the dollar. Prices expressed in constant dollars usually reflect buying power relative to a base year. Prices in this publication are expressed in **Nominal Dollars**.

**Conversion Factor:** A number that translates units of one system into corresponding values of another system. Conversion factors can be used to translate physical units of measure for various fuels into Btu equivalents.

**Crude Oil Used Directly:** Crude oil consumed as fuel by crude oil pipelines and on crude oil leases.

**Cubic Foot (natural gas):** A unit of volume equal to 1 cubic foot at a pressure base of 14.73 pounds standard per square inch absolute and a temperature base of 60° F.

**Degree-Day Normals:** Simple arithmetic averages of monthly or annual degree-days over a long period of time. The 30-year period 1951 through 1980 is used for the estimates in this report. The averages may be simple degree-day normals or population-weighted degree-day normals. Monthly, State-level simple averages are used for this report.

**Degree-Days, Cooling (CDD):** The number of degrees per day that the daily average temperature is above 65° F. The daily average temperature is the mean of the maximum and minimum temperatures for a 24-hour period.

**Degree-Days, Heating (HDD):** The number of degrees per day that the daily average temperature is below 65° F. The daily average temperature is the mean of the maximum and minimum temperatures for a 24-hour period.

**Degree-Days, Population-Weighted:** Heating or cooling degree-days weighted by the population of the area in which the degree-days are recorded. To compute State population-weighted degree-days, each State is divided into from one to nine climatically homogeneous divisions, which are assigned weights based on the ratio of the population of the division to the total population of the State. Degree-day readings for each division are multiplied by the corresponding population weight for each division and those products are then summed to arrive at the State population-weighted degree-day figure. To compute national population-weighted degree-days, the Nation is divided into nine Census regions, each comprising from three to eight States, which are assigned weights based on the ratio of the population of the region to the total population of the Nation. Degree-day readings for each region are multiplied by the corresponding population weight for each region and those products are then summed to arrive at the national population-weighted degree-day figure.

**Diesel Fuel:** Fuel used for internal combustion in diesel engines; usually that fraction of crude oil that distills after kerosene. (See **Distillate Fuel Oil**.)

**Distillate Fuel Oil:** A general classification for one of the petroleum fractions produced in conventional distillation operations. Included are products known as No. 1, No. 2, and No. 4 fuel oils and No. 1, No. 2, and No. 4 diesel fuels. It is used primarily for space heating, on-and off-highway diesel engine fuel (including railroad engine fuel and fuel for agricultural machinery), and electric power generation.

**Electrical System Energy Losses:** The amount of energy lost during generation, transmission, and distribution of electricity, including plant and unaccounted-for uses.

**Electricity Generation:** The process of producing electric energy or transforming other forms of energy into electric energy. It is also the amount of electric energy produced or expressed in watthours (Wh).

**Electricity Sales:** The amount of kilowatthours sold in a given period of time; usually grouped by classes of service, such as residential, commercial, industrial, and other. "Other" sales include sales for public street and highway lighting and other sales to public authorities, sales to railroads and railways, and interdepartmental sales.

**Electric Power Plant:** A station containing prime movers, electric generators, and auxiliary equipment for converting mechanical, chemical, and/or fission energy into electric energy.

**Electric Utility:** A corporation, person, agency, authority, or other legal entity or instrumentality that owns and/or operates facilities for the generation, transmission, distribution, or sale of electric energy, primarily for use by the public, and that files forms listed in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 18, Part 141. Facilities that qualify as cogenerators or small power producers under the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act are not considered utilities.

**Electric Utility Sector:** Privately and publicly owned establishments that generate, transmit, distribute, or sell electricity primarily for use by the public and meet the definition of an electric utility. Nonutility power producers are not included in the electric utility sector.

**End-Use Sectors:** The residential, commercial, industrial, and transportation sectors of the economy.

**Energy:** The capacity for doing work as measured by the capability of doing work (potential energy) or the conversion of this capability to motion (kinetic energy). Energy has several forms, some of which are easily convertible and can be changed to another form useful for work. Most of the world's convertible energy comes from fossil fuels that are burned to produce heat that is then used as a transfer medium to mechanical or other means in order to accomplish tasks. Electrical energy is usually measured in kilowatthours, while heat energy is usually measured in British thermal units.

**Ethane:** A normally gaseous straight-chain hydrocarbon ( $C_2H_6$ ). It is a colorless, paraffinic gas that boils at a temperature of  $-127.48^\circ F$ . It is extracted from natural gas and refinery gas streams.

**Ethylene:** An olefinic hydrocarbon ( $C_2H_4$ ) recovered from refinery processes or petrochemical processes.

**Expenditures:** In this report, the money directly spent by consumers to purchase energy. Expenditures equal the amount of energy used by the consumer times the price per unit paid by the consumer. In the calculation of the amount of energy used, process fuel and intermediate products are not included.

**Exports:** Shipments of goods from the 50 States and the District of Columbia to foreign countries and to Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and other U.S. possessions and territories.

**f.a.s.:** See **Free Alongside Ship**.

**Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC):** The Federal agency with jurisdiction over interstate electricity sales, wholesale electric rates, hydroelectric licensing, natural gas pricing, oil pipeline rates, and gas pipeline certification. FERC is an independent regulatory agency within the Department of Energy and is the successor to the Federal Power Commission.

**Federal Power Commission (FPC):** The predecessor agency of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. The Federal Power Commission was created by an Act of Congress under the Federal Water Power

Act on June 10, 1920. It was charged originally with regulating the electric power and natural gas industries. It was abolished on September 30, 1977, when the Department of Energy was created. Its functions were divided between the Department of Energy and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, an independent regulatory agency.

**Fossil Fuel:** Any naturally occurring organic fuel, such as petroleum, coal, and natural gas.

**Free Alongside Ship (f.a.s.):** The value of a commodity at the port of exportation, generally including the purchase price, plus all charges incurred in placing the commodity alongside the carrier at the port of exportation.

**Gasohol:** A blend of finished motor gasoline (leaded or unleaded) and alcohol (generally ethanol but sometimes methanol) limited to 10 percent by volume of alcohol. Gasohol is included in finished leaded and unleaded motor gasoline.

**Geothermal Energy:** Hot water or steam extracted from geothermal reservoirs in the Earth's crust and supplied to steam turbines that drive generators to produce electricity.

**Heat Content of a Quantity of Fuel, Gross:** The total amount of heat released when a fuel is burned. Coal, crude oil, and natural gas all include chemical compounds of carbon and hydrogen. When those fuels are burned, the carbon and hydrogen combine with oxygen in the air to produce carbon dioxide and water. Some of the energy released in burning goes into transforming the water into steam and is usually lost. The amount of heat spent in transforming the water into steam is counted as part of gross heat content but is not counted as part of net heat content. It is also referred to as the higher heating value. Btu conversion factors typically used in EIA represent gross heat content.

**Heat Content of a Quantity of Fuel, Net:** The amount of useable heat energy released when a fuel is burned under conditions similar to those in which it is normally used. Also referred to as the lower heating value. Btu conversion factors typically used in EIA represent gross heat content.

**Heavy Oil:** The fuel oils remaining after the lighter oils have been distilled off during the refining process. Except for start-up and flame

stabilization, virtually all petroleum used in steam-electric power plants is heavy oil.

**Hydroelectric Power:** The production of electricity from the kinetic energy of falling water.

**Imports:** Receipts of goods into the 50 States and the District of Columbia from foreign countries and from Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and other U.S. possessions and territories.

**Industrial Sector:** Comprises manufacturing industries, which make up the largest part of the sector, along with mining, construction, agriculture, fisheries, and forestry. Establishments in the sector range from steel mills to small farms to companies assembling electronic components.

**Jet Fuel:** Includes kerosene-type jet fuel and naphtha-type jet fuel. Kerosene-type jet fuel is a kerosene-quality product used primarily for commercial turbojet and turboprop aircraft engines. Naphtha-type jet fuel is a fuel in the heavy naphthas range used primarily for military turbojet and turboprop aircraft engines.

**Kerosene:** A petroleum distillate having a maximum distillation temperature of 401° F at the 10-percent recovery point, a final boiling point of 572° F, and a minimum flash point of 100° F. Included are the two grades designated in ASTM D3699 (No. 1-K and No. 2-K) and all grades of kerosene called range or stove oil. Kerosene is used in space heaters, cook stoves, and water heaters; it is suitable for use as an illuminant when burned in wick lamps.

**Lease and Plant Fuel:** Natural gas used in well, field, and lease operations (such as gas used in drilling operations, heaters, dehydrators, and field compressors) and used as fuel in natural gas processing plants.

**Light Oil:** Lighter fuel oils distilled off during the refining process. Virtually all petroleum used in internal combustion and gas-turbine engines is light oil.

**Liquefied Petroleum Gases (LPG):** Ethane, ethylene, propane, propylene, normal butane, butylene, and isobutane produced at refineries or natural gas processing plants, including plants that fractionate new natural gas plant liquids.

**Lubricants:** Substances used to reduce friction between bearing surfaces or as process materials either incorporated into other materials used as processing aids in the manufacturing of other products or as carriers of other materials. Petroleum lubricants may be produced either from distillates or residues. Other substances may be added to impart or improve certain required properties. Excluded are byproducts of lubricating oil refining, such as aromatic extracts derived from solvent extraction or tars derived from deasphalting. Included are all grades of lubricating oils from spindle oil to cylinder oil and those used in greases. Lubricant categories are paraffinic and naphthenic.

**Miscellaneous Petroleum Products:** All finished petroleum products not classified elsewhere—for example, petrolatum, lube refining byproducts (aromatic extracts and tars), absorption oils, ram-jet fuel, petroleum rocket fuels, synthetic natural gas feedstocks, and specialty oils.

**Motor Gasoline:** A complex mixture of relatively volatile hydrocarbons, with or without small quantities of additives, obtained by blending appropriate refinery streams to form a fuel suitable for use in spark-ignition engines. Motor gasoline includes both leaded and unleaded grades of finished motor gasoline, blending components, and gasohol.

**Motor Gasoline Blending Components:** Naphthas that will be used for blending or compounding into finished motor gasoline (e.g., straight-run gasoline, alkylate, reformate, benzene, toluene, and xylene). Excluded are oxygenates (alcohols and ethers), butane, and pentanes plus.

**Natural Gas:** A mixture of hydrocarbons (principally methane) and small quantities of various nonhydrocarbons existing in the gaseous phase or in solution with crude oil in underground reservoirs.

**Natural Gasoline:** A mixture of hydrocarbons, mostly pentanes and heavier, extracted from natural gas that meets specifications for natural gasoline set by the Gas Processors Association. Isopentane is included.

**Nominal Dollars:** Amounts that have not been adjusted to remove the effect of changes in the purchasing power of the dollar.

**Nominal Price:** The price paid for a product or service at the time of the transaction. The nominal price has not been adjusted to remove the effect of changes in the purchasing power of the dollar.

**Nuclear Electric Power:** Electricity generated by an electric power plant whose turbines are driven by steam generated in a reactor by heat from the fissioning of nuclear fuel.

**Nuclear Electric Power Plant:** A single-unit or multiunit facility in which heat produced in one or more reactors by the fissioning of nuclear fuel is used to drive one or more steam turbines.

**Nuclear Fuel:** Fissionable materials that have been enriched to a composition that, when placed in a nuclear reactor, will support a self-sustaining fission chain reaction, producing heat in a controlled manner for process use.

**Pentanes Plus:** A mixture of hydrocarbons, mostly pentanes and heavier, extracted from natural gas. Includes isopentane, natural gasoline, and plant condensate.

**Petrochemical Feedstocks:** Chemical feedstocks derived from petroleum principally for the manufacture of chemicals, synthetic rubber, and a variety of plastics. The categories reported are naphthas less than 401° F endpoint and other oils equal to or greater than 401° F endpoint.

**Petroleum:** A generic term applied to oil and oil products in all forms, such as crude oil, lease condensate, unfinished oils, petroleum products, natural gas plant liquids, and nonhydrocarbon compounds blended into finished petroleum products.

**Petroleum Coke:** A residue that is the final product of the condensation process in cracking. The product is either marketable petroleum coke or catalyst petroleum coke.

**Petroleum Coke, Catalyst:** The carbonaceous residue that is deposited on and deactivates the catalyst used in many catalytic operations (e.g., catalytic cracking). Carbon is deposited on the catalyst, thus deactivating the catalyst. The catalyst is reactivated by burning off the carbon, which is used as a fuel in the refining process. That carbon or coke is not recoverable in a concentrated form.

**Petroleum Coke, Marketable:** Those grades of coke produced in delayed or fluid cokers that may be recovered as relatively pure carbon. Marketable petroleum coke may be sold as is or may be further purified by calcining.

**Petroleum Products:** Products obtained from the processing of crude oil (including lease condensate), natural gas, and other hydrocarbon compounds. Petroleum products include unfinished oils, liquefied petroleum gases, pentanes plus, aviation gasoline, motor gasoline, naphtha-type jet fuel, kerosene-type jet fuel, kerosene, distillate fuel oil, residual fuel oil, petrochemical feedstocks, special naphthas, lubricants, waxes, petroleum coke, asphalt, road oil, still gas, and miscellaneous products.

**Photovoltaic and Solar Thermal Energy:** Energy radiated by the sun as electromagnetic waves (electromagnetic radiation) that is converted at electric utilities into electricity by means of solar (photovoltaic) cells or concentrating (focusing) collectors.

**Plant Condensate:** One of the natural gas liquids, mostly pentanes and heavier hydrocarbons, recovered and separated as liquids at gas inlet separators or scrubbers in processing plants.

**Primary Energy:** All energy consumed by end users, excluding electricity but including the energy consumed at electric utilities to generate electricity. (In estimating energy expenditures, there are no fuel-associated expenditures for hydroelectric power, geothermal energy, solar energy, or wind energy, and the quantifiable expenditures for process fuel and intermediate products are excluded.)

**Process Fuel:** All energy consumed in the acquisition, processing, and transportation of energy. Quantifiable process fuel includes three categories: natural gas lease and plant operations, natural gas pipeline operations, and oil refinery operations.

**Propane:** A normally gaseous straight-chain hydrocarbon ( $C_3H_8$ ). It is a colorless paraffinic gas that boils at a temperature of  $-43.67^\circ F$ . It is extracted from natural gas or refinery gas streams. It includes all products designated in ASTM Specification D1835 and Gas Processors Association Specifications for commercial propane and HD-5 propane.

**Propylene:** An olefinic hydrocarbon ( $C_3H_6$ ) recovered from refinery or petrochemical processes.

**Real Price:** A price that has been adjusted to remove the effect of changes in the purchasing power of the dollar. Real prices usually

reflect buying power relative to a base year. Prices shown in this publication are **Nominal Prices**.

**Refinery (petroleum):** An installation that manufactures finished petroleum products from crude oil, unfinished oils, natural gas liquids, other hydrocarbons, and alcohol.

**Residential Sector:** Consists of all private residences, whether occupied or vacant, owned or rented, including single-family homes, multifamily housing units, and mobile homes. Secondary homes, such as summer homes, are also included. Institutional housing, such as school dormitories, hospitals, and military barracks, generally are not included in the residential sector; they are included in the commercial sector.

**Residual Fuel Oil:** The heavier oils that remain after the distillate fuel oils and lighter hydrocarbons are distilled away in refinery operations and that conform to ASTM Specifications D396 and 975. Included are No. 5, a residual fuel oil of medium viscosity; Navy Special, for use in steam-powered vessels in government service and in shore power plants; and No. 6, which includes Bunker C fuel oil and is used for commercial and industrial heating, for electricity generation, and to power ships. Imports of residual fuel oil include imported crude oil burned as fuel.

**Road Oil:** Any heavy petroleum oil, including residual asphaltic oil, used as a dust palliative and surface treatment on roads and highways. It is generally produced in six grades, from 0, the most liquid, to 5, the most viscous.

**Short Ton (coal):** A unit of weight equal to 2,000 pounds.

**SIC:** See **Standard Industrial Classification**.

**Solar Energy:** The radiant energy of the sun that can be converted into other forms of energy, such as heat or electricity.

**Special Naphthas:** All finished products within the naphtha boiling range that are used as paint thinners, cleaners, or solvents. Those products are refined to a specified flash point. Special naphthas include all commercial hexane and cleaning solvents conforming to ASTM Specifications D1836 and D484, respectively. Naphthas to be blended or

marketed as motor gasoline or aviation gasoline or that are to be used as petrochemical and synthetic natural gas (SNG) feedstocks are excluded.

**Standard Industrial Classification (SIC):** A set of codes developed by the Office of Management and Budget which categorizes industries into groups with similar economic activities.

**Steam Coal:** See **Coal**.

**Still Gas (refinery gas):** Any form or mixture of gas produced in refineries by distillation, cracking, reforming, and other processes. The principal constituents are methane, ethane, ethylene, normal butane, butylene, propane, and propylene. It is used primarily as refinery fuel and petrochemical feedstock.

**Total Energy:** All energy consumed by end users, including electricity but excluding the energy consumed at electric utilities to generate electricity. (In estimating energy expenditures, there are no fuel-associated expenditures for hydroelectric power, geothermal energy, solar power, or wind energy, and the quantifiable expenditures for process fuel and intermediate products are excluded.)

**Transportation Sector:** Consists of private and public vehicles that move people and commodities. Included are automobiles, trucks, buses,

motorcycles, railroads and railways (including streetcars), aircraft, ships, barges, and natural gas pipelines.

**Unfinished Oils:** All oils requiring further refinery processing, except those requiring only mechanical blending. Included are naphthas and lighter oils, kerosene and light gas oils, heavy gas oils, and residuum.

**Unfractionated Streams:** Mixtures of unsegregated natural gas liquid components, excluding those in plant condensate. This product is extracted from natural gas.

**United States:** The 50 States and the District of Columbia.

**Waxes:** Solid or semisolid materials derived from petroleum distillates or residues. Waxes are light-colored, more or less translucent crystalline masses, slightly greasy to the touch, consisting of a mixture of solid hydrocarbons in which the paraffin series predominates. Included are all marketable waxes, whether crude scale or fully refined. Waxes are used primarily as industrial coating for surface protection.

**Wind Energy:** The kinetic energy of wind converted into mechanical energy by wind turbines (i.e., blades rotating from a hub) that drive generators to produce electricity for distribution.